

## **Appendix G**

### **CULTURAL RESOURCES ANALYSIS**

The Planning Process included the preparation of a Cultural Resources Analysis to evaluate the potential for archaeological or historical resources in the Wildlife Area. The analysis, which was performed by Peak and Associates in 2003, included the following components:

1. A review of existing records to determine if any known cultural resource locations were within the boundaries of the Wildlife Area.
2. A sensitivity analysis of the potential for cultural resources for each Unit and Subunit of the Wildlife Area.
3. An explanation of the actions that should be taken if cultural resources are discovered in the Wildlife Area in the future.

In summary, the analysis concluded that there were no recorded cultural resources sites recorded within the Wildlife Area. The report noted that about half of the Units have been substantially disturbed by channel meander over the past century, such that these sites have a low sensitivity for cultural resources. The remaining sites have a moderate sensitivity for such resources and detailed field evaluation of these sites was recommended prior to management actions that will include substantive physical change to the property.

The full text of the Analysis is incorporated in this Appendix G.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES ANALYSIS  
OF THE SACRAMENTO RIVER  
WILDLIFE AREA,  
BUTTE, COLUSA, GLENN, AND  
TEHAMA COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA**

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## INTRODUCTION

The California Department of Fish and Game, in partnership with The Nature Conservancy, is developing a new management plan for the Sacramento Wildlife Area. The Wildlife Area is divided into thirteen administrative units that are located along the Sacramento River between the south boundary line of Tehama County, south to near the community of Colusa. The thirteen units contain approximately 3800 acres of wildlife habitat.

Peak & Associates is assisting the California Department of Fish and Game and The Nature Conservancy with their new management plan for the Sacramento Wildlife Area. Data concerning the status of previously identified cultural resources and cultural resource investigations were obtained from the Northwest and Northeast Information Centers of the California Historical Resources Information System. Historic period Government Land Office, and Plat maps were reviewed as were sources concerning ethnographic village (Native American) locations. The *River Atlas: Appendix To Middle Sacramento River Spawning Gravel Study* (Department of Water Resources 1984) was also reviewed to determine the status of the thirteen units in regards to historic period river channel meanderings.

Based on the literature review, there are no known cultural resources recorded within any of the thirteen units that comprise the Sacramento River Wildlife Area. There are a number of known cultural resources near, or adjacent to, the thirteen units. There are a number of locations derived from historic period maps that are near, or adjacent to, the thirteen units, that may have cultural resources but have never been verified or documented. Eight previous cultural resource investigations have occurred within portions of thirteen units, but no unit has been entirely investigated.

The thirteen units range in sensitivity from moderate to low for the possibility to contain undiscovered cultural resources. The thirteen parcels with the lowest sensitivity are those who have been within the active stream channel of the Sacramento River since 1896. Parcels with moderate sensitivity possess natural (pre 1896) ground. In many cases, individual areas within the thirteen parcel administrative unit have both re-deposited and native areas (low and moderate sensitivity).

A review of the historic period and ethnographic maps indicate that there may have been both prehistoric and historic period cultural resources within the thirteen units that have been washed away by the Sacramento River. Areas shown to have been within the active stream channel during the past 109 years also once apparently contained at least one Native American village and a number of early homesteads.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

A review of records maintained by the Northwest and Northeast Information Centers of the California Historical Resources Information System was conducted for each of the thirteen units. Data concerning known cultural resource locations and previously conducted cultural resource investigations (field surveys) was compiled from records kept by these centers. This information was transferred onto copies of the appropriate United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic map quadrangles. The locations of un-verified historic period features were also plotted on the topographic maps as were the approximate locations of historic (and modern) period

river channel meanderings. These maps are presented in Appendix A. Appendix A is a confidential appendix that should be viewed on a need-to-know basis, and should not be released to the public. It contains information concerning the location of sensitive cultural resources.

## RESULTS

### Merrill's Landing (Map 1)

- Previous studies: None within unit, two adjacent (across river), IC File #'s B-150 and B-197A
- Known resources: None within unit, none adjacent
- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): Moore Bar, S.A. Gayles House, Merrill's Landing (two locations), Morrill's Board yard (1868), CA-BUT-59 (prehistoric period village site)
- Status: Two-thirds deposited after 1923 (former river channel)

The Merrill's Landing area is composed of the Merrill's Landing Unit and the Merrill's Landing Wildlife Area. The Merrill's Landing Unit includes the west parcel which was deposited after 1923 (former river channel) and the northeast and southwest parcels which partially predate 1896. The southwest portion of the Merrill's Landing Wildlife Area predates 1896 while the remainder of the area has been deposited since that time. This southern area contains elevated ground that might have been attractive for prehistoric or historic period settlement. This area, and the higher portions of the northeast and southeast parcels would have moderate sensitivity, while the remaining, post 1923 era portions, would have low sensitivity.

### Dicus Slough (Map 2)

- Previous studies: None within unit, two adjacent (across river), IC File # B-150 and B-137A.
- Known resources: None within unit, none adjacent
- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): Eastman Field, Missouri Bend, House, Hoodlum Chute, CA-TEH-248 (prehistoric period village site), CA-BUT-462 (prehistoric period village site)
- Status: The western half of the unit was deposited after 1896 (former river channel)

The Dicus Slough Unit is a single parcel. The western half is shown to have been within the confines of the Sacramento River channel after 1896 while the eastern half does not, and appears to be outside of the historic period river channel meanderings. The presence of Dicus Slough along the eastern and partial southern boundary, and relatively elevated terrain, would make the eastern portion of the Dicus Slough unit moderately sensitive for the presence of both prehistoric and historic period cultural resources. The western portion would have a low sensitivity.

**Wilson Landing (Map 3)**

- Previous studies: Two within unit (partial), IC File #'s B-150 and B-137A
- Known resources: None within unit, one adjacent (CA-BUT-166)
- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): Wilson Landing, Wilson Island, McIntosh Island, Sam Soule's Bar, Cochran Bosquejo (1856), Mitchell Bosquejo (1856), Reager's House (1856), CA-GLE-95 (prehistoric period village site).
- Status: Easterly portion of parcel deposited after 1896 (former river channel), approximately 40 percent of westerly portion is outside of historic period river channel meandering.

The Wilson Landing Unit is a single parcel. The easterly portion was deposited after 1896 and has a low sensitivity for the presence of cultural resources. Approximately 40 percent of the site, westerly portion, is elevated ground, outside of the historic period river channel meanderings, and has a moderate sensitivity

**Pine Creek Unit (Map 4)**

- Previous studies: One within unit, one adjacent; IC File #'s B-137-A (within) and H97-7-633 (adjacent).
- Known resources: None within unit, one adjacent (CA-BUT-717).
- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): Sharkey's Landing (1895 w/ barn) Bidwell's Ferry (1868, 1895 w/ barn), Ferry House (1868).
- Status: All of the Unit, except the center of the East Unit, was deposited after 1923 and 1969 (former river channel).

The Pine Creek Unit is composed of three subunits. The North Subunit is shown to have been within the river channel after 1923 and 1969. The West Subunit is shown to have been within the river channel after 1923 and 1955 except for portion of the western margin that is shown to have outside of the historic period river channel meanderings. The East Subunit contains areas that have been within the river channel since 1923, and a central portion that was outside of historic period river channel meanderings. The North Subunit, and those portions of the West and East Subunits shown to have been deposited after 1923 (former river channel) would have a low sensitivity. Those portions of the East and West Subunits that are shown to be outside of the historic period river channel meanderings have a moderate sensitivity for cultural resources.

Three structures are shown to be present on the USGS Ord Ferry topographic quadrangle within the central portion of the East Subunit. All three structures are shown to have been constructed sometime between 1949 and 1969 (original and photo-revised topographic map publication dates). At this date, only one structure remains. The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) considers any man made feature or artifact greater than 45 years in age (pre 1958) to be a cultural resource. If any alterations to these three structures are proposed, a cultural

resource evaluation should be conducted in order to determine whether any or all may be eligible historic properties for inclusion in the California Register (“important archeological resources” under CEQA).

#### **Shannon Slough (Map 5)**

- Previous studies: One within unit, none adjacent, IC File # 1663
- Known resources: None within unit, none adjacent
- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): Munroeville (Depot), Gibb’s House (1858), Jenson’s House (1858), Nicks Ferry (w/ barn 1898), Mrs. Toy’s House, H.G. Jennings, Dayton landing (w/ barn 1895), CA-BUT-48 (prehistoric period village site).
- Status: Approximately 96 percent deposited after 1935 (former river channel)

The Shannon Slough Unit is a single parcel. All but a tiny fraction located in the southwest corner is shown to have been deposited after 1935. This parcel would have low sensitivity for the presence of cultural resources.

#### **Ord Bend (Map 6)**

- Previous studies: None within unit, none adjacent
- Known resources: None within unit.
- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): Placer City (1872), Hight’s Wood Yard (1858), *Soo’ noor* (ethnographic village site), CA-GLE-18 (village site), CA-BUT-233 (village site).
- Status: The entire unit was deposited after 1896 (former river channel).

The ethnographic village of *Soo’ noor* is shown to be within the Ord Bend Unit, in an area that was river channel after 1896. The sensitivity for the Ord Bend Unit is low.

#### **Jacinto (Map 6)**

- Previous studies: None within unit, none adjacent
- Known resources: None within unit, one adjacent (CA-GLE-20)
- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): King’s House, Spark’s House, Hight’s Wood Yard (1858),
- Status: The entire unit was deposited after 1896 (former river channel).

The Jacinto Unit is a single parcel. The southern portion of the Jacinto Unit has an adjacent Native American village site (CA-GLE-20) that is now shown to be in the center of the current

channel of the Sacramento River. The sensitivity for the Jacinto Unit is low.

### **Oxbow (Map 7)**

- Previous studies: None within unit, none adjacent
- Known resources: None within unit, none adjacent
- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): Gibson's (1857), Newhart's House, Newhart's Landing (w/ barn 1895), Billison's House (?) (1857), Old Rancheria (1857).
- Status: The entire unit was deposited after 1896 (former river channel)

The Oxbow Unit is a single parcel. It has a low sensitivity for the presence of cultural resources.

### **Beehive Unit (Map 8)**

- Previous studies: None within unit, none adjacent.
- Known resources: None within unit, none adjacent
- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): Gallo's Bend, Cox's Bend, (4) Old Rancherias (1857), CA-GLE-103, CA-GLE-580, CA-GLE-581, site reported by landowner.
- Status: The oxbow area around Hanson Island was the 1896 river channel, the remaining portion of the North Unit and the entire area of the South Unit appears to be outside of the historic period river channel meanderings.

The Beehive Unit is composed of two subunits. The North Subunit has an oxbow area that is shown to have been within the river channel after 1896. The southern portion of the North Unit is outside of the area of historic period river channel meanderings. The South Unit is outside of the area of historic period river channel meanderings. An unrecorded, prehistoric period cultural resource, was reported by a landowner to be located adjacent to the oxbow area. Even though this oxbow is shown to have been deposited after 1896, cultural material from this unrecorded cultural resource may be eroding out of the cutbank. Both the North and South Beehive units should therefore be considered as moderately sensitive for the presence of cultural resources.

### **Princeton Units (Maps 9, 10)**

- Previous studies: Four within unit, none adjacent , NWIC File #'s S-2948, S-13593, NEIC File #'s 1993, G-487-A
- Known resources: None within unit, none adjacent

- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): (3) Old Rancherias, Willett's House (1857), Clark's House (?) (1856), Helvertsen's House (?) (1856), House, Blacksmith Shop, Old Rancheria, Van Skkled Stote- Princetown (1856), Pariswood (?) (1856), Ammet's House (1856), Mill's House (?) (1856), Grigsbed's House (?) (1856), Old Adobe- Crigler's (1856)
- Status: Portions of the North Unit and East Unit are shown to be outside of the historic period river channel meanderings. The South Unit was entirely within the river channel after 1908 and 1946.

The Princeton Unit is composed of three parcels, the North Unit, East Unit, and South Unit. Approximately 20 percent of the North Unit (northern portion) is shown to be outside of the area of historic period river channel meanderings. The remaining portion of the North Unit has been an active river channel since 1896. The East Unit is almost entirely outside of the area shown to be within the historic period river channel meanderings. Approximately five percent of the East Unit (western margin) was within the river channel after 1896. The South Unit has been entirely within the river channel since 1908 and 1946.

The North Unit had a "Willett's '57" noted near the southwest corner. This former residence is shown to be just outside of the North Unit. The USGS Princeton topographic quadrangle shows a residence or structure to be present near the center of the North Unit. The residence/structure was at this location by 1949 according to the topographic map. The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) considers any man made feature or artifact greater than 45 years in age (pre 1958) to be a cultural resource. If any alterations to these three structures are proposed, a cultural resource evaluation should be conducted in order to determine whether any or all may be eligible historic properties for inclusion in the California Register ("important archeological resources" under CEQA).

The East Unit has a Clark's (house?) noted on a map with information collected in 1856. A previous examination of the area (NEIC File #1993) failed to uncover evidence of this historic period feature.

Three un-verified historic period resources are shown on historic period maps to have once been located in the South Unit; Pariswood (?), Ammet's House, and the Old Adobe owned by Crigler (1856). These apparently were destroyed when the area was eroded by the Sacramento River.

The northern portion of the North Unit, and the entire East Unit (with the exception of the area immediately adjacent to the current river channel) have a moderate sensitivity for cultural resources. The South Unit has a low sensitivity.

### **Stegeman (Map 11)**

- Previous studies: One within the South Unit, NWIC File #' S-10064
- Known resources: None within units, one adjacent to South Unit (CA-GLE-158)
- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): Indian Mound, John Hancock's House- Old Nine Mile House (1856), Moulton's Landing (w/ barn 1895)

- Status: Both subunits deposited after 1896 and 1908 (former river channel)

Both the North Subunit and South Subunit are shown to have been within the historic period river channel meanderings, post 1908. The adjacent prehistoric period resource (CA-GLE-158) is reported to terminate at the edge of the South Subunit. The South Subunit would therefore have a moderate sensitivity. The North Subunit would have low sensitivity.

### **Moulton Unit (Map 12)**

- Previous studies: Two within South Subunit, NWIC File #'s S-9666 and S-13593
- Known resources: None within subunits, none adjacent
- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): Adobe Wall (1857), Caldren's Landing (w/ barn 1895), 7 Mile House (2 locations, one with barn by 1895)
- Status: North Subunit is shown to be outside of the area of historic period river channel meanderings. The South Subunit has been deposited since 1896 (former river channel).

The North Subunit is outside of the area shown to be within the historic period river channel meanderings, and has some elevated areas. It has a moderate sensitivity. The South Subunit is shown to have been deposited after 1896 (former river channel). It has a low sensitivity.

### **Colusa Unit (Map 13)**

- Previous studies: None within subunits, one adjacent to North Subunit, NWIC File # S-2948
- Known resources: None within subunits, one adjacent to South Subunit (CA-COL-8)
- Historic/ethnographic period resources (within a one-mile radius): Colusa townsite, Cobbs Bend.
- Status: Both subunits are shown to have been deposited after 1896 (former river channel).

Both subunits have a low sensitivity for the presence of cultural resources.

## RECOMENDATIONS

### Background

Prehistoric period activity along the Sacramento River course and adjacent lands was widespread. There are a number of recorded village sites and notations for “Rancherias” or Indian encampments on historic period maps. Typically, villages would be constructed on elevated ground, either naturally occurring, or human created (earthen mounds). Villages were the center of activity for multiple family lineages, and may have been repeatedly occupied over the course of hundreds of years. This occupation usually leaves the telltale signs of human activity- organically enriched sediment (midden) that contains fragments of fish and animal bones, and the stone tools that captured and processed the food. When possible, deceased individuals were also buried at village sites for protection against natural and human elements.

Historic period settlement was also extensive along the banks of the Sacramento River. Early Government Land Office maps show a number of houses, landings, and commercial enterprises in place by the late 1850s. The early use of the Sacramento River for transportation was vital for the development of the region.

Prehistoric and historic period cultural resources may be present anywhere along the course of the Sacramento River. The examination of previously conducted archeological field inspections indicates that the majority of the parcels within the thirteen units have never been systematically examined. The parcels that have been ranked with low sensitivity in this study have a low probability to contain cultural resources due to the history of the Sacramento River meanderings. Those parcels assigned a moderate sensitivity have a much higher chance to have cultural resources, because they possess natural land surfaces.

Table 1 lists the Units, their land status, sensitivity, and recommendations for further treatment.

<b>Table 1 Sacramento River Wildlife Area Cultural Analysis, Recommendations</b>			
<b>Unit (parcel)</b>	<b>Land Status</b>	<b>Sensitivity</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
Merrill's Landing, West Unit	Post 1923	Low	Call in archeologist for unexpected discoveries
Merrill's Landing, northeast and southeast units	Pre 1923 (eastern portion), post 1923 (western portion)	Moderate (eastern portion), low (western portion)	Perform field inspection prior to any ground-disturbing activities in area with moderate sensitivity
Merrill's Landing Wildlife Area	Pre 1923 (southern portion), post 1923 (northern portion)	Moderate (southern portion), low (northern portion)	Perform field inspection prior to any ground-disturbing activities in area with moderate sensitivity

Dicus Slough	Western half, post 1896, eastern half pre 1896	Low (western half), moderate (eastern half)	Perform field inspection prior to any ground-disturbing activities in area with moderate sensitivity
Wilson Landing	All post 1960	Low	Call in archeologist for unexpected discoveries
Pine Creek , North	All post 1965	Low	Call in archeologist for unexpected discoveries
Pine Creek, West	Pre 1896 (western margin), post 1923 (remainder)	Moderate (pre 1896), low (post 1923)	Perform field inspection prior to any ground-disturbing activities in area with moderate sensitivity
Pine Creek, East	Pre 1896 (central portion), post 1923 (remainder)	Moderate (pre 1896), low (post 1923)	Perform field inspection prior to any ground-disturbing activities in area with moderate sensitivity
Shannon Slough	All post 1936	Low	Call in archeologist for unexpected discoveries
Ord Bend	All post 1896	Low	Call in archeologist for unexpected discoveries
Jacinto	All post 1896	Low	Call in archeologist for unexpected discoveries
Oxbow	All post 1896	Low	Call in archeologist for unexpected discoveries
Beehive Unit, oxbow area	Oxbow area adjacent to Hanson Island, post 1896,	All moderate (cultural resource adjacent to oxbow area)	Perform field inspection prior to any ground-disturbing activities in area with moderate sensitivity
Beehive Unit, remainder parcel	Pre 1896	Moderate	Perform field inspection prior to any ground-disturbing activities in area with moderate sensitivity
Princeton Unit – North	Northern part pre 1896, southern part post 1896	Moderate (northern part), low (southern part)	Perform field inspection prior to any ground-disturbing activities
Princeton Unit – East	Extreme western portion post 1896, remained natural	Low to moderate	Perform field inspection prior to any ground-disturbing activities in area with moderate sensitivity
Princeton Unit – South	Post 1908	Low	Call in archeologist for unexpected discoveries
Stegeman Unit, North Subunit	Post 1896 and 1908	Low	Call in archeologist for unexpected discoveries

Stegeman Unit, South Subunit	Post 1908	Low to moderate (along western edge)	Perform field inspection prior to any ground-disturbing activities in area with moderate sensitivity
Moulton Unit, North Subunit	Pre 1896	Moderate	Perform field inspection prior to any ground-disturbing activities in area with moderate sensitivity
Moulton Unit, South Subunit	Post 1896	Low	Call in archeologist for unexpected discoveries
Colusa Unit, North Subunit	All post 1955	Low	Call in archeologist for unexpected discoveries
Colusa Unit, South Subunit	Post 1896 and 1908	Low	Call in archeologist for unexpected discoveries

### Low Sensitivity Areas

For those areas with low sensitivity, i.e. areas that have been within the Sacramento River channel, there appears to be little likelihood that remnant, undisturbed ground that may contain evidence of prehistoric or historic period remains. There does not appear to be any need to perform a physical, on-site inspection of these areas by an archeologist prior to planned ground disturbing activities. Unexpected discoveries, such as re-deposited cultural material, or historic period features that may have withstood inundation and scouring, may still be present. If, during construction activities, concentrations of artifacts or non-native stone (obsidian, fine-grained silicates, basalt) are exposed or if unusual amounts of bone or shell, or concentrations of historic period refuse or if historic period features are observed, then work should cease in the immediate area of the discovery and a professionally qualified archeologist should be contacted immediately for a on-site inspection of the discovery.

If any bone is uncovered that appears to be human, then state law requires that the local county coroner must be contacted. If the coroner determines that the bone most likely represents a Native American interment, then the Native American Heritage Commission in Sacramento must be notified so that they can identify the most likely descendants

### Moderate Sensitivity Areas

For those areas with moderate sensitivity (natural ground surface, or former river channel areas adjacent to known cultural resources), the first activity should be the preparation of maps that clearly delineate the maximum extent of the proposed activity (APE, or area of potential effect). The proposed project area (APE) should be plotted on a copy of the appropriate USGS topographic quadrangle, so that this information can be compared to the existing record of previously conducted cultural resource investigations (Appendix B).

For small-scale maintenance projects, such as sign or gate replacement, only those provisions that apply to unexpected discoveries should be followed.

If the proposed APE has been previously inspected by archeologists within the previous ten-year period (general cut-off date for Information Center regarding “adequate” surveys), then this

information can be used to support a finding of no effect. If the proposed APE has not been previously inspected (Appendix B), then a professionally qualified archeologist should be consulted to perform an on-site inspection of the proposed APE.

### Existing Structures

The Pine Creek East Unit includes three structures, according to the USGS topographic map quadrangle. These structures are shown in purple, meaning that they were constructed sometime between 1947 and 1969. As of this date, only a single structure remains within the Pine Creek Unit. The Princeton Unit North has a single structure that was constructed sometime before 1949.

The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) considers any man made feature or artifact greater than 45 years in age (pre 1958) to be a cultural resource. If any alterations to these three structures are proposed, a cultural resource evaluation should be conducted in order to determine whether any or all may be eligible historic properties for inclusion in the California Register ("important archeological resources" under CEQA). The structures may qualify for outstanding or unique architecture or their associations with famous persons or events.

The structures indicated on the USGS topographic quadrangle maps may no longer be present, or may be in a dilapidated condition. An archeologist would need to document (record) and evaluate the remaining foundations, and/or debris piles and submit this information to the OHP. In most cases, the documentation and evaluation of existing or collapsed structures would be the only mitigation measures necessary.

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